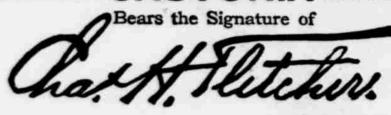
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INCLE SAM'S ADVICE ON FLU

Official Health Bulletin

on Influenza.

LATEST WORD ON SUBJECT.

Epidemic Probably Not Spanish in Origin-Germ Still Unkhown-People Should Guard Against "Droplet Infection"-Surgeon General Blue Makes Authoritative Statement.

Washington, D. C .- (Special.) -Although King Alfonso of Spain was one of the victims of the influenza epidemic in 1893 and again this summer, Spanish authorities repudiate any claim to influenza as a "Spanish" disease. If the people of this country do not take care the epidemic will become so widespread throughout the United States that soon we shall hear the disease called "American" influ-

In response to a request for definite information concerning Spanish influenza, Surgeon General Rupert Blue of the U. S. Public Health Service has authorized the following official inter-

What is Spanish influenza? is it something new? Does it come from Spain?

"The disease now occurring in this country and called 'Spanish Influenza' resembles a very contagious kind of 'cold,' accompanied by fever, pains

Coughs and Sneezes Spread Diseases



symptoms disappear after three or four days, the patient then rapidly recovering. Some of the patients, however, develop pneumonia, or inflammation of the ear, or meningitis, and many of these complicated cases die. Whether this so-called 'Spanish' influenza is identical with the epidemics of influen-

za of earlier years is not yet known. "Epidemics of influenza have visited this country since 1647. It is interesting to know that this first epidemic was brought here from Valencia, Spain. Since that time there have been numerous epidemics of the disease. In 1889 and 1890 an epidemic of influenza, starting somewhere in the Orient, spread first to Russia and thence over practically the entire civilized world. Three years later there was another flare-up of the disease. Both times the epidemic spread wide ly over the United States.

"Although the present epidemic is called 'Spanish influenza,' there is no reason to believe that it originated in the question believe that the epidemic came from the Orent and they call atmention the disease as occurring along the eastern front in the summer and

"There is as yet no certain way in which a single case of Spanish influer hand, recognition is easy where to the outbreaks of ordinary coughs cold months, epidemics of influenza may occur at any season of the year Thus the present epidemic raged most intensely in Europe in May, June and July. Moreover, in the case of ordinary colds, the general symptoms means as severe or as sudden in their onset as they are in influenza. Final ly, ordinary colds do not spread through the community so rapidly o so extensively as does influenza.

"In most cases a person taken sick denly. He feels weak, has pains in the over emphasized. eyes, ears, head or back, and may be sore all over. Many patients feel dizzy, some vomit. Most of the pa-tients complain of feeling chilly, and with this comes a fever in which the temperature rises to 100 to 104. In most cases the pulse remains relative-

"In appearance one is struck by the gested, as the doctors say. There of a cold may not be marked; nevertheless the patient looks and feels very possible.

"In addition to the appearance and the symptoms as already described, lations of your local and state health examination of the patient's blood may | officers." aid the physician in recognizing 'Spanish influenza.' for it has been found

that in this disease the number of white corpuscles shows little or no increase above the normal. It is possi-Me that the laboratory investigations now being made through the National Research Council and the United States Hygienic Laboratory will furnish a more certain way in which indi-U. S. Public Health Service Issues Tidual cases of this disease can be recognized."

What is the course of the disease? Do people die of it?

"Ordinarily, the fever lasts from three to four days and the patient recovers. But while the proportion of deaths in the present epidemic has | generally been low, in some places the outbreak has been severe and deaths have been numerous. When death occurs it is usually the result of a com-

It spread?

"Cacteriologists who have studied influenza epidemics in the past have found in many of the cases a very Small rod-shaped germ called, after it: discoverer, Pfeiffer's bacillus. In other cases of apparently the same kind of disease there were found pneumococci the germs of lober pneumonia. Still others have been caused by strep'o cocci, and by others germs with long

"No matter what particular kind of

germ causes the epidemic, it is now

believed that influenza is always spread from person to person, the germs being carried with the air along with the very small droplets of mucus, expelled by cougling or sneezing forceful talking, and the like by one who already has the germs of the disease. They may also be carried about in the air in the form of dust coming from dried mucus, from coughing and sneezing, or from careless people who spit on the floor and on the sidewalk. As in most other catching diseases, a person who has only a mild attack of the disease himself may give a very severe attack to others."

What should be done by those who catch the disease?

"It is very important that every person who becomes sick with influ nza should go home at once and go to bed. This will help keep away dangerous complications and will, at the same time, keep the patient from scattering the disease far and wide. It is highly desirable that no one be allowed to sleep in the same room with the patient. In fact, no one but the nurse should be allowed in the room.

"If there is cough and sputum or running of the eyes and nose, care should be taken that all such discharges are collected on bits of gauze or rag or paper napkins and burned. If the patient complains of fever and headache, he should be given water to and a light sponge. Only such medicine should be given as is prescribed by the doctor. It is foolish to ask the druggist to prescribe and may be dangerous to take the so-called 'safe, sure and harmless' remedies advertised by patent medicine manufacturers.

"If the patient is so situated that he can be attended only by some one who must also look after others in the family, it is advisable that such attendant wear a wrapper, apron or gown over the ordinary house clothes while in the sick room and slip this off when leaving to look after the others.

"Nurses and attendants will do well to guard against breathing in dangerous disease germs by wearing a simple fold of gauze or mask while near the

Will a person who has had influenza before catch the disease again?

"It is well known that an attack of measles or scarlet fever or smallpox usually protects a person against another attack of the same disease. This appears not to be true of 'Spanish influenza.' According to newspaper re-Spain. Some writers who have studied ports the King of Spain suffered an attack of influenza during the epidemic thirty years ago, and was again tention to the fact that the Germans stricken during the recent outbreak in

"In guarding against disease of all kinds, it is important that the body be kept strong and able to fight off disease germs. This can be done by havenza' can be recognized. On the oth- ing a proper proportion of work, play and rest, by keeping the body well there is a group of cases. In contrast clothed, and by eating sufficient wholesome and properly selected food. In and colds, which usually occur in the connection with diet, it is well to reall-around foods obtainable for adults as well as children. So far as a disease like influenza is concerned, health authorities everywhere recognize the very close relation between its spread (fever, pain, depression) are by no and overcrowded homes. While it is not always possible, especially in times like the present, to avoid such overcrowding, people should consider the health danger and make every effort to reduce the home overcrowding to a minimum. The value of fresh with influenza feels sick rather sud air through open windows cannot be

"When crowding is unavoidable, as in street cars, care should be taken to keep the face so turned as not to inhale directly the air breathed out by another person.

"It is especially important to be ware of the person who coughs or sneezes without covering his mouth and nose. It also follows that one fact that the patient looks sick. His should keep out of crowds and stuffy eyes and the inner side of his eyelids places as much as possible, keep may be slightly 'bloodshot,' or 'con-homes, offices and workshops well aired, spend some time out of doors may be running from the nose, or each day, walk to work if at all practhere may be some cough. These signs ticable—in short, make every possible effort to breathe as much pure air as

"In all health matters follow the advice of your doctor and obey the regu-

"Cover up each cough and sneeze, If you don't you'll spread disease."

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1 Mowing Machine,

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1 red cow,

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